

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN D. LYONS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Kevin D. Lyons the Illustrious Potentate of the Oman Temple Number 72 Ancient Egyptian Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine Prince Hall Affiliated. The Temple membership is honoring him at the Potentate's Ball on May 19th in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

A native of New Jersey, Kevin attended East Orange High School with an emphasis in College Preparatory Music. He graduated from Delaware State University with a major in Music Education and obtained his masters degree at Howard University in Performance and Jazz Studies.

Bringing his love of music to Michigan, Kevin works for the Beecher Community School District as the district-wide assistant director of bands. He also provides private lessons in drum and percussion instruments and is a professional drummer with the music group "Deep Blue." He is a life member of the Kappa Kappa Psi National Honorary Band Fraternity and the Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America. He belongs to the Music Educators National Conference, National Association of Rudimental Drummers, the Percussive Art Society International Conference, the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, and all Prince Hall Masonic Houses.

In addition to being a committed music teacher, Kevin also uses his talent for the worship of Our Lord Jesus Christ. He is a member of Vermont Christian Church and is the Chairman of the Media Ministry. He is the former president of the Christian Men's Fellowship, a former co-sponsor of the Youth Ushers, and a participant on the Finance Team.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in applauding Kevin D. Lyons's devotion to his community, his students, his church, and to congratulate him for his service to the Oman Temple Number 72.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I was in my Congressional District and unable to be present for votes on May 7, 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on each of rollcalls Nos. 302, 303, and 304.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BEVERLY COUNOYER

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Beverly Cournoyer, a Registered Nurse, who is a distinguished and devoted professional in her field.

Beverly earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of Kansas and her Master's in Business Administration from University of Nevada Las Vegas. She has been a Registered Nurse for over 30 years. Beverly's career in public health care began with work on a Native American Indian Reservation, where she used her expertise to address the specific health care requirements of the population she served. When Beverly moved to Las Vegas, she committed herself to changing the way in which the Las Vegas community is served in regards to understanding the importance of public health care and home health care. Beverly developed and established a program to evaluate the long-term health care needs of extremely ill elderly patients in order to minimize their need for admissions to hospitals or to nursing homes. Her home health care program proved to be not only cost effective, but also dramatically improved the patients' quality of life.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Beverly Cournoyer. Her passion and her love of nursing have improved the lives of countless of patients in Las Vegas. I thank her for her dedication and commitment to the community and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House of Representatives last week due to the birth of my son. If I had been able to be present, I would have voted as follows:

H.R. 1868—Technology Innovation and Manufacturing Stimulation Act: rollcall No. 301—"yea"; rollcall No. 300—"yea."

H.R. 1592—To provide Federal assistance to States, local jurisdictions, and Indian tribes to prosecute hate crimes, and for other purposes: rollcall No. 299—"nay"; rollcall No. 298—"yea"; rollcall No. 297—"nay"; rollcall No. 296—"nay."

H.R. 1867—To authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2008, 2009, and 2010 for the National Science Foundation, and for other purposes: rollcall No. 295—"yea"; rollcall No. 294—"yea"; rollcall No. 293—"nay"; rollcall No. 292—"yea"; rollcall No. 291—"yea"; rollcall No. 290—"yea"; rollcall No. 289—"yea"; rollcall No. 288—"nay"; rollcall No. 287—"yea."

H.R. 1429—To reauthorize the Head Start Act, to improve program quality, to expand access, and for other purposes: rollcall No. 285—"yea";

Improving Head Start Act—On Motion to Recommit with Instructions:

Rollcall No. 284—"yea."

Amendment No. 11: rollcall No. 283—"nay."

Amendment No. 9: rollcall No. 282—"nay."

Amendment No. 7: rollcall No. 281—"yea."

Amendment No. 5: rollcall No. 280—"yea."

Amendment No. 4: rollcall No. 279—"yea."

Amendment No. 3: rollcall No. 278—"yea."

Amendment No. 2: rollcall No. 277—"yea."

H.R. 1591 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations: rollcall No. 276—"nay"; rollcall No. 275—"nay."

TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION AND MANUFACTURING STIMULATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 3, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1868) to authorize appropriations for the National Institute of Standards and Technology for fiscal years 2008, 2009, and 2010, and for other purposes:

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Chairman, as we find ourselves falling farther and farther behind countries like China and India, which are graduating thousands more engineers and mathematicians than we are, America needs continued technological innovation to remain atop the global economy.

Yet industrial research and development that leads to breakthrough innovation is often expensive, and positive results are often a long time coming.

This can be especially problematic for small businesses. But America cannot afford not to help small business get the technology and training they need to compete in the world market.

I sponsored and supported H.R. 1868 in committee, largely because it includes two programs to help small businesses: the Manufacturing Extension Partnership and the Technology Innovation Program.

The Manufacturing Extension Partnership helps America's small manufacturers improve productivity and competitiveness through technology. The Technology Innovation Program too assists small business to pursue new technology development.

By supporting these programs we are supporting industry and ensuring that our economy continues to lead the world in technological innovation.

I urge my colleagues to vote for H.R. 1868.

HONORING MARK HOWE

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Mark Howe for receiving the 2007 Distinguished Friend Award from the Grapevine-Colleyville Education Foundation. This nonprofit foundation was created to help support the educational programs and activities for students and staff of the GCISD. Programs to assist students in skill and achievement development, acknowledge staff accomplishments and develop broader involvement within the community are all funded by the Grapevine-Colleyville Education Foundation.

Mr. Howe has served on numerous GCISD advisory committees and for more than 6 years he has been the director for the Education Foundation serving as the Foundation's President for 2½ years. Mr. and Mrs. Howe donated a \$25,000 endowment to the foundation in honor of Mr. Howe's mother, Inez Cannon Howe, a retired teacher. The Howe's children have all graduated from the

Grapevine-Colleyville Independent School District.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Mr. Mark Howe on being recognized with the 2007 Distinguished Friend Award and thank him for his service, support and guidance to the Grapevine-Colleyville ISD and Education Foundation. His numerous contributions to the GCISD have no doubt benefited many and it is an honor to represent him in the 24th District of Texas.

TRIBUTE TO COUNCILMAN JIM
SPEHAR OF GRAND JUNCTION,
COLORADO

HON. JOHN T. SALAZAR

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Mr. SALAZAR. Madam Speaker, I stand today to pay tribute to Jim Spehar, an outstanding community leader from Grand Junction, Colorado. For eight years he has served the City of Grand Junction as a distinguished and valued member of the City Council. Prior to that, Mr. Spehar served as a Mesa County Commissioner from 1991 to 1995.

Leadership and candor have been a hallmark of his legacy and he has employed both of these qualities in his city and county roles, as well as having served as president of the Colorado Municipal League. In addition, he excelled as the western Colorado representative for the Colorado Water Congress Board of Directors. He currently serves as the director of the Central Rockies office of the Sonoran Institute, where he assists cities in assessing the impact of growth on their communities.

Jim Spehar has always been about the betterment of communities and his decisions have always reflected that thought. Popularity was not his concern—reaching for the good of the populace has been at the heart of his actions. Never one to back down from controversy, Jim has led by example through thoughtful decision making with integrity and fairness. His leadership will be difficult to emulate, and the bar he has set will take extraordinary efforts by those who follow him.

It is my pleasure to acknowledge his contributions to the city of Grand Junction and Mesa County, as well as the entirety of the State of Colorado.

HONORING BOB HUDEK

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the work of a remarkable activist from Wisconsin—Bob Hudek of Citizen Action of Wisconsin.

Bob Hudek is retiring from Citizen Action of Wisconsin after serving 12 years at the helm of an organization that has become a national model for how to engage people in progressive politics. During that time he displayed the strong leadership skills necessary to build Citizen Action of Wisconsin into an effective, statewide organization. It is known throughout the State for its fabulous issue work and

serves as one of the best organizing models in Milwaukee.

Bob Hudek's passion for fairness and compassionate public policy spans a broad range of serious issues facing the people of Wisconsin. From education to health care to consumer protection, Bob's commitment to the community and promoting the principles of social justice is truly unbounded.

Bob Hudek served to continue Wisconsin's long history of progressive politics. He worked undauntedly to elect progressive legislators who shared his commitment to the Wisconsin ideal. His leadership furthered the progressive movement at the State and national levels and will have an impact that will reverberate for years to come.

With an unmatched generosity of spirit, Bob Hudek is able to bring together people and organizations with an array of viewpoints and help them to find common ground. This dedication to the issues he holds dear fostered the development of not only Citizen Action of Wisconsin but other organizations as well.

Thank you, Bob, for the years of service you have provided Citizen Action of Wisconsin, the progressive movement, and the people of Wisconsin.

DART CELEBRATES 50,000

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50,000th passenger to use the Commuter Express. This is a remarkable milestone for the city of Denton.

On Monday, May 7, 2007, the Denton County Transportation Authority transported its 50,000th Commuter Express passenger. The Commuter Express was launched in May of 2006 and works in conjunction with Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) to connect Denton, Lewisville, the DART North Carrollton Transit Center and the Dallas Central Business District.

The Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) was signed into law by the governor in 2001. On June 6, 2003, the North Central Texas Council of Governments presented the Regional Cooperation Award to the DCTA. The award is presented to local governments which promote cooperation to solve regional problems; which do not allow jurisdictional boundaries to be barriers to solutions; and which demonstrate that joint projects can provide better use of resources as well as quality service.

I would like to congratulate the Denton County Transportation Authority and the entire community of Denton County. I am proud to celebrate this occasion with them, and I look forward to working with them in the future as we make our transportation system even more efficient. The people of the 26th Congressional District of Texas are already benefiting from this service, and I know I can expect great things in the future from DART.

ON THE CINCO DE MAYO HOLIDAY

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the historic holiday of Cinco de Mayo.

On May 5, 1862, Mexican forces led by General Ignacio Zaragoza Seguín defeated French occupying forces in the Battle of Puebla, just 100 miles from Mexico City. General Seguín led his brave troops to a spirited victory in spite of the fact that his forces had neither the manpower nor the equipment of their opponents. The Battle of Puebla was instrumental in preserving the right of the Mexican people to self-determination, as it helped prevent the French military from taking long-term control of sovereign Mexican territory.

The heroic actions of General Seguín and his courageous forces not only helped preserve the Mexican government, they also helped preserve the unity of the United States. Had France been able to extend its control over Mexican territory at the Battle of Puebla, France likely would have had sufficient resources and manpower to aid the Confederate States of America in their war against the United States. The tremendous fight put up by the Mexican troops at the Battle of Puebla ensured that such a worrisome scenario did not come to pass and provided President Lincoln with crucial support as the Civil War descended into chaos.

There can certainly be no questioning of the bravery, spirit and patriotism of the thousands of Mexican troops who fought and, all too frequently, gave their lives at the Battle of Puebla. I believe that, as we recognize the efforts and sacrifices of those troops, Cinco de Mayo provides us with a perfect opportunity to recognize the sacrifice for sovereignty, the importance of courage and, above all, the universal yearning for freedom.

The Mexican forces who won the Battle of Puebla should not and will not ever be forgotten. I commend those forces for their spirit and courage and I wish all those celebrating the holiday across Mexico and the United States a happy Cinco de Mayo.

TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to America's teachers and commemorate them for the infinite number of ways they make us a better nation by inspiring our children to think beyond the bounds of home, school and community.

Today is National Teacher Day and this is Teacher Appreciation Week. National Teacher Day, sponsored by the National Education Association, is a time for honoring teachers and recognizing the lasting contributions they make to our lives and to our communities.

While this year's theme for National Teacher Day is "Great Teachers Make Great Public Schools," all of us must also remember that great teachers make a better tomorrow for all